

63-7258/a

Honorable Thomas J. Dodd
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Dodd:

Thank you for your letter passing on information which you had received concerning the Soviet arms build-up in Cuba. This will be processed and weighed against all the other information which is available to us. We continue to face a serious problem in Cuba and are grateful for your assistance.

All of us in the Intelligence Community are vitally concerned that the President and his advisors receive the best information which it is possible to obtain. To make sure that he does, we sift through several thousands of reports concerning Cuba each month, many similar to those you cite here. By a painstaking process of collation, evaluation, and analysis, we seek to distinguish those with a basis of truth from those which are inaccurate or exaggerated and those of which the sources may be irresponsible or self-serving. By such means we attempt to give the President estimates firmly based in solid information in which he can have confidence and on which he can act. As the President said at his press conference on 7 February, "... we have to move with hard intelligence. We have to know what we are talking about. We cannot base the issue of war and peace on a rumor or report, which is not substantiated"

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance and I want you to know that I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this at any time, if you so desire.

Sincerely,

Distribution:

- O & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - DCI (w/basic)
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - ER
- 1 - Leg. C.

John A. McCone
Director

ER-

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Attached is a proposed letter to Senator Dodd thanking him for the information on Cuba which he supplied and commenting on the intelligence process. In accordance with your instructions, this would be hand carried to the Senator for additional oral comments on his information. If this procedure is satisfactory to the President, I recommend that John Warner take the letter to the Senator.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

28 February 1963
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

STAT

65-1258/a

1 MAR 1963

Honorable Thomas J. Dodd *Card*
United States Senate
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(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE

John A. McCone
Director

OGC/LC:JSW:mks (28 Feb 63)

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

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(Signed) DIRECTOR 1 MAR 1963
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